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Montanufacturing

the e-newsletter of the
Montana Manufacturing Association

July 2016



The Montana Manufacturing Association is the organization for manufacturers and their supporters in Montana. The Association helps build manufacturing in Montana in several ways:

- connecting manufacturers and supporters to build business;
- advocating for legislation and rules that benefit manufacturing;
- supporting and promoting international trade; and
- educating Montanans about the importance of manufacturing.

Association membership includes a membership in the Montana Chamber of Commerce. For more info, go to: www.MontanaManufacturingAssociation.com

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A Place for Women Veterans in Manufacturing



Women veterans discuss transition to manufacturing in a short video from the National Manufacturing Association's Manufacturing Institute.

Next year, more than 200,000 women currently serving in the military will come home, and many will be looking for their next career. The skills women veterans gain in the service are in high demand, and manufacturing is a perfect fit. Manufacturing needs more women in the workforce that possess the advanced skills required to fill open positions. Watch three women veterans, Anna Gamache from Alcoa, Paula Kilrain from Ball Corporation, and Stacey Brown from American Airlines, discuss their transition from the military into manufacturing in a short video from the Manufacturing Institute.

[Watch video](#)

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Registration is Now Open for Compete Smart Conference!

The Montana Manufacturing Association is proud to be a sponsor! Join other manufacturers (and their supporters) from around the state at the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center's biannual manufacturing conference Compete Smart, to be held this October 5-7 at Fairmont Hot Springs. 2016 marks MMEC's 20th anniversary helping Montana manufacturers succeed. Come celebrate with us and take away valuable connections and insights to help you innovate, grow and improve profits and performance. MMEC is proud to announce Janyce Fadden as this year's Keynote Speaker.

[Learn More and Register Here](#)

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Dawson Community College Aims to Close Skills Gap

We're pleased to present this series of updates on Montana's two-year colleges and how they are preparing their students to enter the manufacturing industry. Watch each month for another feature.

In it's 75th year, Dawson Community College in Glendive is working to provide highly-skilled workers to fill vacant manufacturing jobs in Montana. New to DCC is a Corrosion Technology Program, which prepares students to prevent or control corrosion damage. A Certificate of Technical Skills giving students NCCER and AWS credentials was also recently approved to be added to DCC's offerings. The college will also benefit from RevUp Montana funding to purchase state-of-the-art welding equipment used by industry professionals.

[Read more about DCC here...](#)

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Host an Event and Promote Manufacturing this MFG DAY

MFG DAY is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. Although Manufacturing Day officially occurs on October 7 this year, any day can be a Manufacturing Day. We're planning MFG DAY Helena on October 14. Join the movement and plan an event in your community this fall. Facility tours are a great way to promote your business and the manufacturing industry.

Click here for [more ideas and additional resources](#) on hosting a MFG DAY event.

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Have You Registered for the Economic Update Series?

The 11th Annual Economic Update Series hosted by the Montana Chamber Foundation is coming to seven cities in Montana starting Thursday, July 28th. The theme of this year's series, "The Competition for Talent," will focus on workforce issues and topics. Each update in the series will present information specific to each of the host cities and their surrounding areas.

[Register here](#) to join us in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Kalispell, Helena, or Missoula. Breakfast or lunch will be provided at each location. Cost is \$30 for Montana Chamber and Manufacturing Association members and \$35 for nonmembers.

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Federal Issues:

MMA Supports Perkins CTE and GMO Legislation

The Montana Manufacturing Association (MMA) joined more than 200 organizations in signing a letter in support of Perkins Career and Technical Education legislation. The House Education and the Workforce Committee voted to move the Perkins CTE toward consideration by the full House of Representatives on July 7th. The act aims to create modernized and relevant career and technical education programs to provide employers with a prepared workforce. [Click here to view](#) full letter signed by the MMA.

The MMA also supported legislation that would require GMO labeling with words, pictures or a bar code that can be scanned with smartphones. The USDA will decide which ingredients will be considered genetically modified.

Manufacturers' Center for Legal Action Fights "Persuader" Rule

The Manufacturers' Center for Legal Action (MCLA) and other coalition associations have filed suit to stop the "persuader" rule issued by the White House. The rule infringes on the rights of employers to communicate with and receive advice from expert advisers on labor relations issues. The National Association of Manufacturers recently announced that the chances of getting the rule overturned by a District Court in Texas seem good. We'll keep you updated on this case as information becomes available.

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Membership Benefits Available to You

Montana Manufacturing Association (MMA) members are eligible for cost-saving benefits through their affiliation with the Montana Chamber of Commerce. Members of the MMA are automatically members of the Montana Chamber, the state's leading business organization.

National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Advocate Membership

The Montana Manufacturing Association (MMA) and National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) have signed an agreement recognizing qualifying companies for joint membership. MMA member manufacturers with less than 25 employees or less than \$5 million in revenue may qualify.



Montana Retirement Choices

The Montana Chamber announces a new member benefit program, a Multiple Employer Plan (MEP) for retirement savings. Montana Retirement Choices offers solutions for all businesses, including start-ups, small businesses, small-to-medium employers, and large companies. For more information, go to MontanaRetirementChoices.com.

Safety Choices Through EMPLOYERS(R) Offers Discount

EMPLOYERS, America's small business insurance specialist, is the workers' compensation insurance provider of choice for the Montana Safety Choices program. Montana Chamber members can receive a 5 percent up-front discount on their premium. Check it out at MtSafetyChoices.com.



Health Coverage

Our association coverage program now endorses Associated Employers. They offer a range of benefits, as well as a self-insured health coverage program. Go to ChamberChoices.com for more info.

Kuntz Memorial Fund Recognizes Manufacturing Simulation

The Montana Chamber Foundation has created the Kelly Kuntz Memorial Scholarship Fund in

memory of our former Board member. A scholarship will be given annually in his name to a continuing college student, preferably a business major and former High School Business Challenge (HSBC) participant. HSBC is the manufacturing simulation run by the Foundation in schools across Montana, teaching business principles. Find out more at www.MontanaChamber.com/Chamber-Foundation/Kuntz.



Need Help with Human Resource Issues?



Keep in the know through our affiliation with Personnel Plus! in Helena.

Get the weekly free HRe-Digest, discounts on HRe-source, and free and discounted HR consulting time. Find out more at

www.MontanaChamber.com/Member-Benefits/Human-Resources-e-Source.

Office Depot/OfficeMax Merge for Greater Opportunities

The merger of Office Depot and OfficeMax increases your availability for great discounts on **office supplies and printing** at Office Depot stores and online. Take advantage of savings up to 60% off 400 commonly-purchased items and up to 70% on copy and print services! For info/registration, go to:

www.MontanaChamber.com/member-benefits/Office-Depot-Discounts



eCertify Discount for Members



If you need a Certificate of Origin to export, ask the Montana Chamber.

We have a new online system that is fast, easy, and very reasonable - eCertify!

eCertify is a user-friendly, online solution which transforms the costly, time-consuming, paper-based process for stamping and signing a paper-based Certificate of Origin (CO) into a streamlined electronic system.

COs are important trade documents that identify the origin of goods being exported. It is required by customs authorities in many countries to validate the origin of goods being imported and acts as one of the key bases for applying tariff rates. Chambers of commerce are recognized worldwide as the official body and key agent issuing COs.

For more information/registration, go [here](#).

Match up With Other Manufacturers

Manufacturers' News, Inc., the industrial information source since 1912, compiles and publishes profiles of U.S. manufacturers. Each company profile contains up to thirty detailed facts, including names & titles of decision makers. MCC members receive a 20% discount off the list price of MNI directories and online database subscriptions when you order online at MontanaChamber.com/member-benefits/Manufactures-News-Discount.



Training, etc., from MMEC



An affiliate of the NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership

The Montana Manufacturing Council (MMC) has a cooperative agreement with the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center (MMEC). MMC members get discounts on MMEC programs and services, while MMEC members get free e-Certificates of Origin from MMC.

More?

Future benefits under consideration include shipping discounts. For details, go to:

MontanaManufacturingAssociation.com.

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